

Appln. No. 10/634,428
Response and Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
filed November 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated July 30, 2004

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the document listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A).

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii) as revised at 69 Fed. Reg. 56481 (September 21, 2004), a copy of the cited U.S. patent has not been submitted.

The cited reference, U.S. Patent No. 6,502,917, is an English-language counterpart to document WO 99/59823, already of record in this case, and which is in Japanese.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A) be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Since Applicants have received an Office Action on the merits, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2). The requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) should be charged to Deposit Account 19-4709.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding rejections have been addressed and are now either overcome or moot. Applicants further submit that all claims pending in this

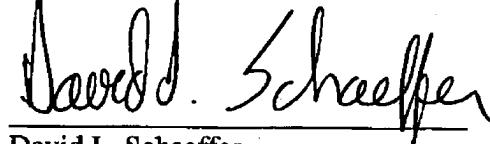
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application are patentable over the prior art. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of those rejections and objections is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees now or hereafter due in this application to Deposit Account No. 19-4709, including the fees required for the foregoing Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer (a Fee Transmittal form is submitted herewith).

In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Schaeffer
Registration No. 32,716
Attorney for Applicant
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP
180 Maiden Lane
New York, New York 10038
(212) 806-6677

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			Application Number	10/634,428
			Filing Date	August 5, 2003
			First Named Inventor	Taku Ishizawa, et al.
			Art Unit	2853
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Known
(Use as many sheets as necessary)			Attorney Docket Number	405507/0012
Sheet	1	of	1	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁸
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (# known)	MM-DD-YYYY			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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